THE LOWER HAWKESBURY RIVER FAMILIARISATION TOUR

2013

MARK OLIVER SMITH

10 February 2013

Dear Milton,

I have often explained to you that successful tours require planning, execution and reflection. These phases can be negotiated by inspiration (and research), application and imagination. In compiling this reflection of our joint journey I am actually enjoying three journeys!

Furthermore, I am reflecting from a 'present point' back into a 'possible future' that has now become 'a past'! (Got it?)

I must confess my notes are not a faithful 'Hansard' record of the chronology of our trip. That would be too boring! It would not allow for an imaginative treatment. It is important to catch the excitement of our tour. I have tried to catch glimpses of the past and a few of the achievements of those who settled in this scenic but rugged landscape. Meeting Jim Harris certainly added a classic 'Aussie' flavour to our tour.

Much love,

DAD

Tuesday
22 February 2013

Dear Milton and Minnie,

I am writing to thank you both for your generosity in providing your commodious 4 wheel-drive Hyundai and an accompanying driver on our recent trip. It enabled Mary to visit her incapacitated sister, Emily, and her two granddaughters as well as two old friends.

I was equally blessed. I was able to execute a tailor-made, custom-designed tour of the lower reaches of the Hawkesbury River. This was a revelatory tour with historical and geographical tid-bits. These provided a pleasant introduction to a scenic region which is not well-known to the tourist industry or its aficionados. An altogether delightful experience.

Thank you once again,

GRANDDAD

DRIVER AND GUIDE

Except for sleep, we had an enjoyable time
during two nights at the historic Gosford Hotel.

PROPOSED TOUR
HAWKESBURY EXPLORER

Saturday 19 January 2013	The PITTWATER	Mona Vale Palm Beach Coaster's Retreat Gosford
Sunday 20 January 2013	WISEMAN'S FERRY	Gosford Somersby, Peats Ridge Central Mangrove Mangrove Mountain Spencer Gunderman WISEMAN'S FERRY Glenorie
	BEROWRA	Berowra Waters Gosford
		Kincumber
	BROOKLYN	
		Gosford
Monday 21 January 2013	BOBBIN HEAD	Brooklyn Bobbin Head Bahai Temple
		Mona Vale

SUMMARY OF ACTUAL
LOWER HAWKESBURY FAMILIARISATION TOUR

Saturday 21 January 2013

1. **Bobbin Head** in Ku-ring-gai Chase (National Park)

2. **Brooklyn**
   Seven islands: Lion Island, Dangar Island, Peat, Milson, Spectacle, Ferry Island, Scotland Island

3. **Gosford Hotel** (1928)
   Leagues Club, RSL, Sailing Club

Original Gosford Hotel 1928

Sunday 22 January 2013

4. **Peat's Ridge Road**
   Spencer, Gunderman, Wiseman's Ferry

5. **St Alban's**
   Webb's Ferry Crossing

6. **Wiseman's Ferry Town**
   Old Northern Road through Maroota, Glenorie

7. **Berowra Waters**
   Ferry Crossing

8. **Kincumber and Brisbane Waters**
   Holy Cross Church (1842), St Paul's (1847), Jim Harris (Guide)

Monday 23 January 2013

9. **Edogawa Japanese Gardens**
   (East Gosford), (Webb Street)

10. **Henry Kendall Cottage**
   (West Gosford)

11. **Palm Beach**
   Ferry trip to Coaster's Retreat, The Basin, Currawong, Mackerel Beach

12. **Bahai Temple, Mona Vale**
   Temple and Visitors Centre

13. **Lady Davidson Private Hospital**
   Turramurra
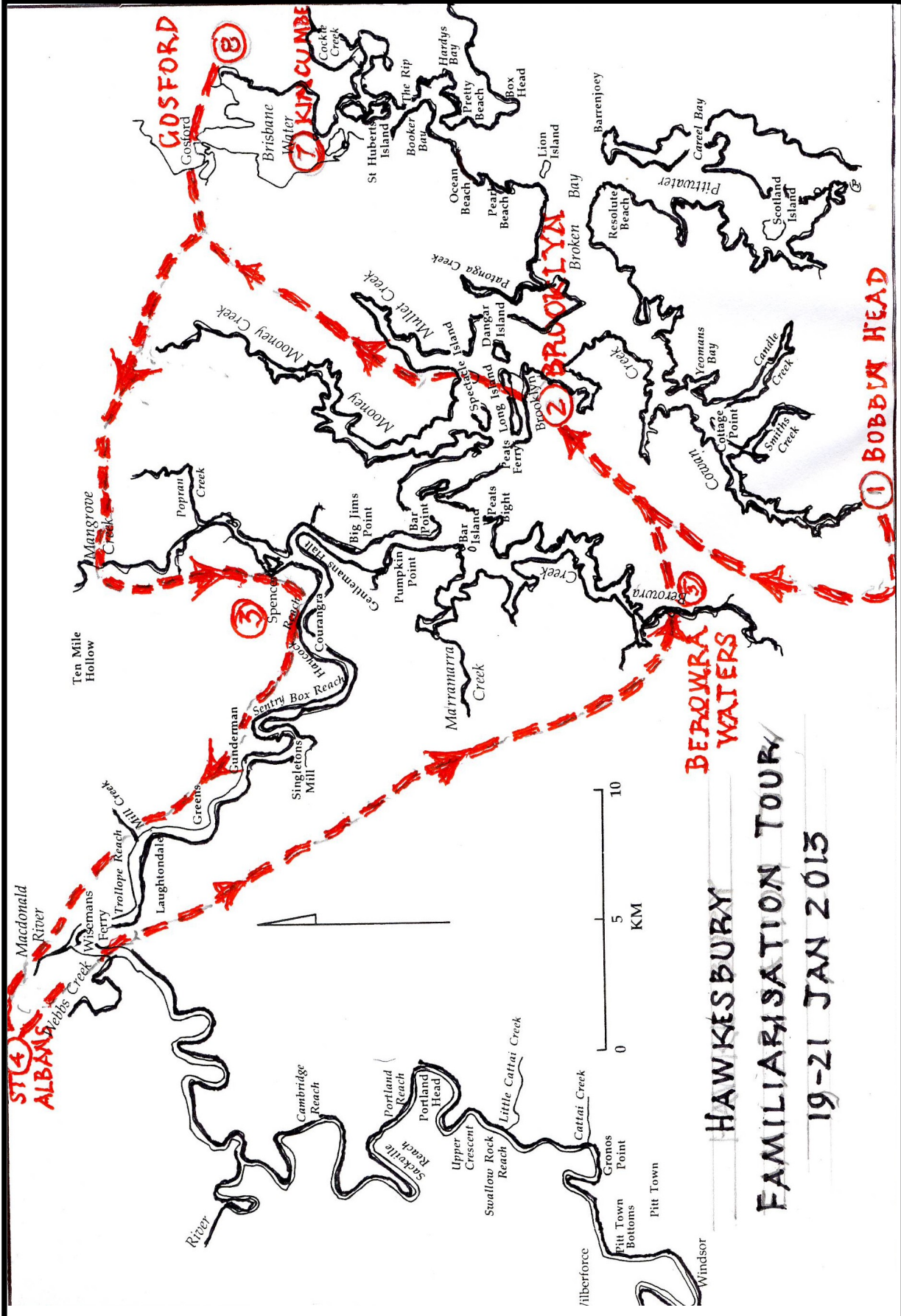
HAWKESBURY
FAMILIARISATION TOUR
19-21 JAN 2013

LOWER HAWKESBURY RIVER FAMILIARISATION TOUR
19 JANUARY 2013 – 21 JANUARY 2013

Letter to Milton

Letter to Milton and Minnie

Proposed Tour

Summary of Actual Hawkesbury Familiarisation Tour

Map of Familiarisation Tour

SECTION 1
The Hawkesbury River

Part 1
History of Discovery
Captain Cook's Map of Coastline
Governor Arthur Phillip and Sydney
Broken Bay

Part 2
Phillip's Three Sea and Three Land Explorations
First Sea Trip to Broken Bay (2 March – 9 March 1788)
1.   First Land Exploration to Pennant Hills (14 – 18 April 1788)
2.   Second Land Exploration to Prospect Hill
3.   Third Land Exploration from Manly to Pittwater (22 August 1788)
Phillip's Second Sea Exploration to Broken Bay up to Junction of Macdonald River
(6 June 1789 – 15 June 1789)
Phillip's Third Broken Bay Exploration by Boat (29 June 1789 – 14 July 1789)

Part 3
Aboriginal Life on the Lower Hawkesbury
Introduction
The Dharug
The Guringai
Bobbin Head in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park
Brooklyn Village

Part 2
A Visit to the Sydney Bahai Temple, Mona Vale

The Bábí Faith
Bahá'u'lláh
Universal House of Justice
A Universal Religion and a System of World Government

LOWER HAWKESBURY RIVER
FAMILIARISATION TOUR

An excursion undertaken by Mark Smith (Guide)
and Milton Smith (Driver)
19-21 January 2013

SECTION 1
The Hawkesbury River

Part I
History of Discovery
(Notes based on Brian Fletcher's Article)[*]

Captain Cook's Map of Coastline

In mapping the east coast of Australia Captain James Cook had named **Botany Bay** and had spent over a week there before he continued sailing northward. On 7 May 1770 he passed an inlet and named it **Port Jackson** in honour of one of the secretaries of the Admiralty. Another inlet some 20 miles further north of Port Jackson was mapped by Cook and he named it **Broken Bay**.

Governor Arthur Phillip and Sydney

Governor Phillip arrived at Botany Bay on 18 January 1788. On 20 January he proceeded in several boats to seek a more suitable site for a permanent settlement. After inspecting Port Jackson he selected **Sydney Cove** as the site. On 26 January he unfurled the Union Jack at the place he had named in honour of Lord Sydney of the Admiralty.

Broken Bay

Within six weeks of establishment of the settlement Governor Phillip set about the exploration of the second inlet named by Cook, viz. '**Broken Bay**'. This bay was a little further away than Cook's map indicated. Phillip undertook three sea journeys and one overland journey to discover the secrets of Broken Bay.

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[*]   See *Hawkesbury River District – Governor Phillip, Exploration and Early Settlement*, edited by Jocelyn Powell and Lorraine Banks; Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society; Deerubin Press; 1990. Chapter 1. *Governor Arthur Phillip and New South Wales* by Brian Fletcher.

Part 2
Phillip's Three Sea and Three Land Explorations

First Sea Trip to Broken Bay

2 March – 9 March 1788

This sea journey was undertaken by Governor Phillip because he suspected that a river flowed into Broken Bay. On this journey he did not confirm the existence of the river but he did explore the estuary about the mouth of Broken Bay on both its northern and southern

Governor Arthur Phillip – from painting by Francis Wheatley

arms. His party explored the **Brisbane Waters** from around **Pearl Beach**, **Ettalong**, **Riley's Island**, **Hubert's Island**, **Erina Creek** and the **Kincumber Broadwater**. On the South Arm Phillip's crew explored **Cowan Creek** and noted **Coal and Candle Creek** and **Smith Creek**. Before they returned they explored the **Pitt Water** and again crossed the mouth to **Patonga Creek** and rowed westward as far as **Dangar Island**. They did not, however, locate much grazing land or find the elusive river.

1. **First Land Exploration to Pennant Hills**

   14 April – 18 April 1788

   On this occasion Governor Phillip determined to explore the rugged environs of the **North Shore** and **Middle Harbour**. From the **Pennant Hills** he obtained a clearer view of the Blue Mountains (Carmarthen Hills (North) and Lansdown Hills (South)). He could also sight **Richmond Hill** and suspected that a river lay at its base.

2. **Second Land Exploration to Prospect Hill**

   A Five-day Land Journey (1788)

   Soon after returning from his North Shore investigation, Phillip determined to visit the Blue Mountains and confirm his hunch that a river flowed at the foot of the mountains. On this five day overland journey Phillip only managed to reach **Prospect Hill** not far west of Parramatta. He did, however, locate some good farming land.

3. **Third Land Exploration from Manly to Pittwater**

   22 August 1788

   Governor Phillip and his doctor, Surgeon White, with a party, travelled on foot from **Manly Cove to Pittwater**. Although his health was poor he made the journey by following the tracks made by aborigines.
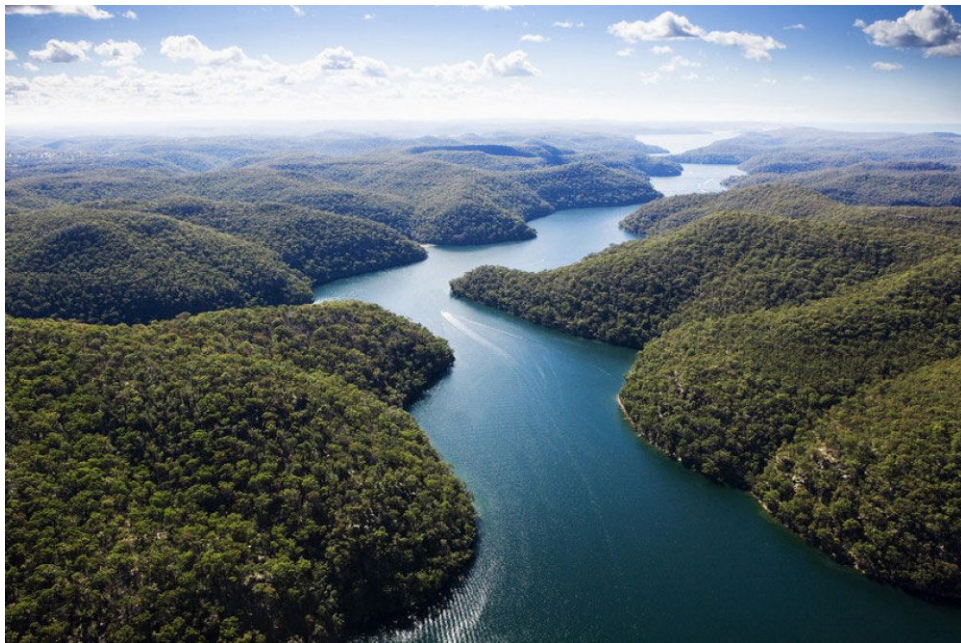
Looking Glass Bay, Pittwater

Phillip's Second Sea Exploration to Broken Bay up to Junction of Macdonald River
6 June 1789 – 15 June 1789

On this occasion Governor Phillip was determined to establish whether a river flowed at the foot of the Blue Mountains through to Broken Bay. On his first exploration he rowed as far as **Dangar Island** but bad weather and the unfamiliar and irregular seascape prevented his discovery of a major river. He revisited the **Brisbane Waters** Inlet, the **Pittwater** Inlet and the **Cowan Creek** Inlet. On this occasion he discovered the **Mullet Creek** Inlet and the **Mooney Mooney Creek** Inlet. It was then that Phillip discovered the main stream which was flanked by **Mangrove Creek** to the north and **Berowra Creek** to the south.
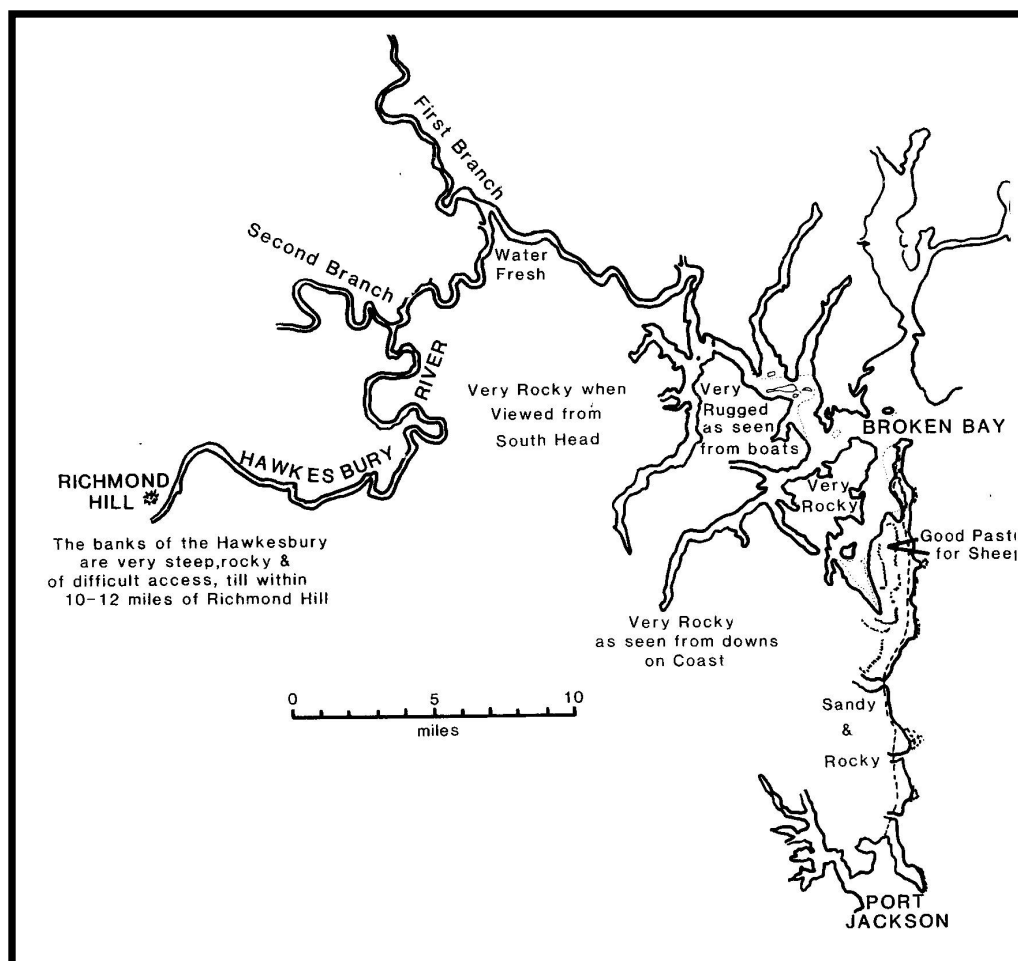
Exploration of Broken Bay and the Hawkesbury River
(redrawn from Dawes' 1791 map)

Phillip continued following the main stream to **Wiseman's Ferry** region to the junction of the main stream and **Macdonald River**. As supplies were running low they decided to return to Port Jackson. Phillip named the main stream after **Lord Hawkesbury**, the President of

Trade and Plantations. Phillip's boat party left Pittwater at midnight of 14 June and the shore party left in the morning of 15 June.

Phillip's Third Broken Bay Exploration by Boat

29 June 1789 – 14 July 1789

On this occasion Phillip's party numbered about 40 personnel. They included two rowing boats and a ground party which rendezvoused at the southern end of **Pittwater**. The marines were well armed in case of hostilities with the natives. After investigating the **Macdonald River** they arrived at the junction of the **Colo River** and inspected it for two or three miles then returned to the mainstream. They arrived at **Richmond Hill** by 5 July and the party climbed it on 6 July. Here they obtained panoramic views of the **Carmarthen** and **Lansdown Hills**. They followed the Hawkesbury to its junction with the **Grose River**. This stream proved to be too shallow at the time and, because the main river was blocked by short shallow rapids, Phillip decided to conclude the expedition. He was alarmed at the height and quantity of the debris in the trees beside the river. After climbing Richmond Hill a second time Hunter determined the latitude as 33°35'37". True latitude is now fixed at 33°35'45". Phillip arrived back on 14 July after several harrowing difficulties.

<div align="center">

Part 3
Aboriginal Life on the Lower Hawkesbury
(based on an article by Anne Ross)

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Introduction

At the time of the earliest European contact there were two main linguistic groups on the lower Hawkesbury. To the east were people known today a **Guringai**, or the **Eora**. To the west were the Dharug who were probably the main group on the lower Hawkesbury.

Aboriginal tribal boundaries based on ethnohistorical evidence
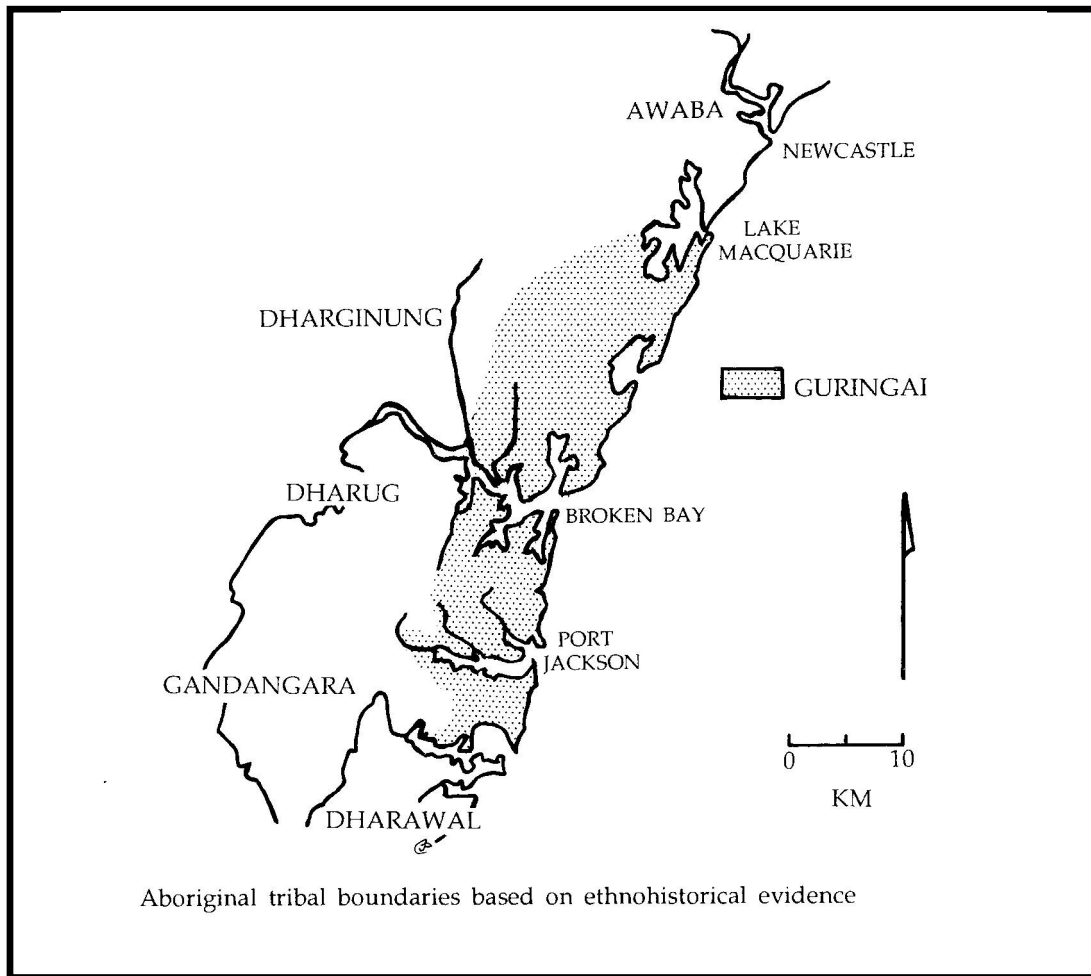
The Dharug

The Dharug had a more broadly based economy than the Guringai. They were predominantly an inland tribe who also depended on some seafood. They were hunters and gatherers who fed on animals, tree grubs, fern roots (chiefly wild yams), lizards, wild ducks, teal, quail, possum, snakes, frogs and kangaroo. Around Broken Bay they also ate shellfish and crustaceans.

The Guringai

Although marine and estuarine environments provided the bulk of the Guringai diet, various other foods were also obtained including plant foods, macropods, birds, possums, grubs, lizards and kangaroos. Fish was a major component of their diet. Fish was also dried. They also ate shellfish such as oysters, mussels and cockles.
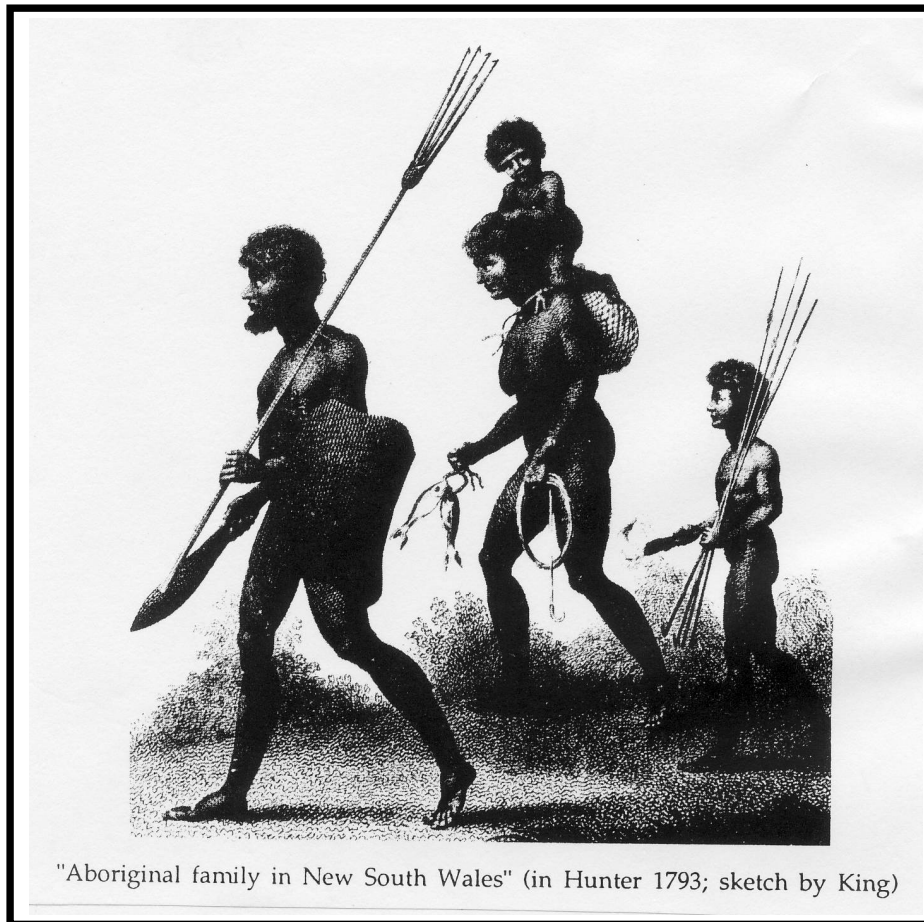
"Aboriginal family in New South Wales" (in Hunter 1793; sketch by King)

Bobbin Head in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park ①

The Ku-ring-gai Chase is 30 km north of Sydney and was home to a large number of the Guringai people. It extends from the Pacific Highway to the Pittwater and it straddles the

Bobbin Head

Cowan Creek Inlet of Broken Bay. The Cowan Creek Inlet has a number of creeks flowing into it. These include **Refuge Creek**, **Yeoman's Creek**, **Coal and Candle Creek**. At its extremity the Cowan Creek Inlet has a marina at **Bobbin Head**. This marina provides moorings for private boats. Motor dinghies and boat trips are available. Bobbin Head is a favourite picnic spot with walking tracks and a Discovery track is accessible to wheel chairs. The **Kalkari Visitors Centre** has displays which provide information about aboriginal life and the environmental features of the Chase.

Brooklyn Village ②

Brooklyn is a town which sits on the lower reaches of the Hawkesbury River and close to the railway bridge linking Sydney to Gosford. Boat trips to eight of the Broken Bay Islands are available. Regular ferry services to Dangar Island, Patonga and Little Wobbly Beach are provided. Houseboats and motor dinghies may be hired.

HAWKESBURY RIVER
RAILWAY BRIDGE. N.S.W.

Circa 1925

Part 1
Around Gosford

Gosford

Gosford was proclaimed a city in 1980 and is recognised as the commercial centre of the central coast area of New South Wales. It has a sailing club, a football stadium, a racecourse, a leagues club, an RSL club and has access to numerous holiday pastimes. Two local attractions include:

East Gosford

• **The Gosford Regional Gallery and Arts Centre** ⑧

This attractive centre also has a stunning Commemorative Japanese Garden. It is beautifully manicured and maintained. It is called the Gosford Edogawa Commemorative Gardens and is situated in Webb Street, East Gosford.

Edogawa Japanese Gardens

West Gosford

- **Kendall Cottage** ⑨

  The Gosford Shire has made great capital out of Henry Kendall's brief association with Gosford. There is a 'Henry Kendall' High School, Bridge, Retirement Home

  and a ferry cruise on the *Lady Kendall*! However Henry Kendall the poet, only lived as a guest in the Fagan home from 1874 to 1875. The stone cottage was convict built c 1838 and was licensed as *The Red Cow Inn*. It was also known as *Cooranbean*. Kendall was cared for during his period of rehabilitation at this home. When he had recovered he moved northwards of Taree to the Camden Haven area where he worked as a ranger. It is generally believed that Kendall gained his inspiration for writing 'Bell-Birds' while living with the Fagan family.

Bell-Birds

By channels of coolness the echoes are calling

And down the dim gorges I hear the creek falling.

It lives in the mountain where moss and the sedges

Touch with their beauty the banks and the ledges.

Through breaks of the cedar and sycamore bowers

Struggles the light that is love to the flowers;

And softer than slumber, and sweeter than singing,

The notes of the bell-birds are running and ringing.

<div align="center">Verse 1. Henry Kendall (1839-1882)</div>

Kincumber and Brisbane Waters

Kincumber ⑥

Kincumber is the oldest permanent village on the north arm of the entrance to Broken Bay. Kincumber Mountain Reserve provides panoramic views of the Pacific Coast and of the western to Kincumber Broadwater and the Brisbane Waters basin. It features two historic churches:

- The Holy Cross Catholic Church built in 1842, the first church built in the Brisbane Waters District.
- St Pauls Anglican Church, built in 1847.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Holy Cross Church was the first church built in the Brisbane Water District. It was first proposed in 1838, used for Mass in 1842 and completed in 1843. It has been a place of worship for the pioneers of the district and their descendants, many of whom lie in the churchyard. Blessed Mary MacKillop was a frequent visitor to this historic site. Holy Cross is one of the oldest Catholic churches in Australia and has been in continuous use for over 160 years.

On our visit to this area we were guided and entertained by Jim Harris.

The Brisbane Waters ⑦ and the Ettalong Ferry

Entrance to these waters can be made by ferry from Palm Beach Wharf to Ettalong. On this trip one passes Lion Island and nearby Umina. Further on into Brisbane Waters one comes to Woy Woy and St Huberts Island. The Brisbane Waters has many attractive features for the tourist and holiday-maker – sailing, fishing, water sports, walking tracks, a wealth of native flora and fauna and evidence of aboriginal occupation.

Part 2
Regional Towns

The Nepean – Hawkesbury River Complex

This river is a complex combination of several streams joining together. Primarily it is the joining of the Nepean River and the Hawkesbury River. These two streams are notionally joined where the Gross River flows into the Nepean River near Richmond. However the Nepean River is a complex combination of streams fed by the waters of the Cataract Dam, the Cordeaux Dam, the Avon Dam and the Nepean Dam. The waters of these streams join with the waters of the Little River and the Nattai River and the Wollondilly River to make a vast fresh-water catchment area for Sydney's water supply. In addition the Cox River also flows into the Nepean catchment at the north of Lake Burragorang. The Cox River begins its journey near Wallerawang and finds its way to the southern reaches of the Nepean.

Towns on the Nepean River to Richmond

The following towns have developed near the Nepean network of streams: Appin, Wilton, Maldon, Picton, Menangle, Camden-Narellan, Warragamba, Wallacia, Mulgoa, Emu Plains and Penrith, Castlereagh, Yarramundi, Agnes Banks, Richmond.

The Hawkesbury River

The Upper Hawkesbury Towns

The following towns are on or near the Upper Hawkesbury River:

> Richmond, Freeman's Reach, Windsor, Pitt Town, Wilberforce, (Cattai), Sackville, Sackville North, Lower Portland, (Colo), Webb's Creek Ferry, Wiseman's Ferry, (St Albans).

The Lower Hawkesbury Towns

> Wiseman's Ferry, Laughtondale, Gunderman, Courangra, Spencer, Gentleman's Halt, Brooklyn.

Islands in and around Broken Bay

> Dangar Island, Long Island, Peat Island, Milson Island, Lion Island and Scotland Island. Within the Brisbane Waters there is St Hubert's Island and Riley's Island.

Part 3
Wiseman's Ferry, St Alban's, Macdonald River and Berowra Waters

## Gosford to Wiseman's Ferry ③

It is not possible to drive from Gosford to Wiseman's Ferry and keep the lower Hawkesbury River in view. Our trip followed the Peat's Ridge option through Spencer and Gunderman. It is certainly a pleasant tree-lined drive with some fruit orchards and pockets of cattle and horse grazing. As the road descended to the river holiday homes and retirement homes gained scenic views of the river from homes perched on stilts. We did not avail ourselves of the Wiseman's Ferry crossing. We continued on the unsealed Settlers Road for 20 kms and came to the historic village of St Alban's.
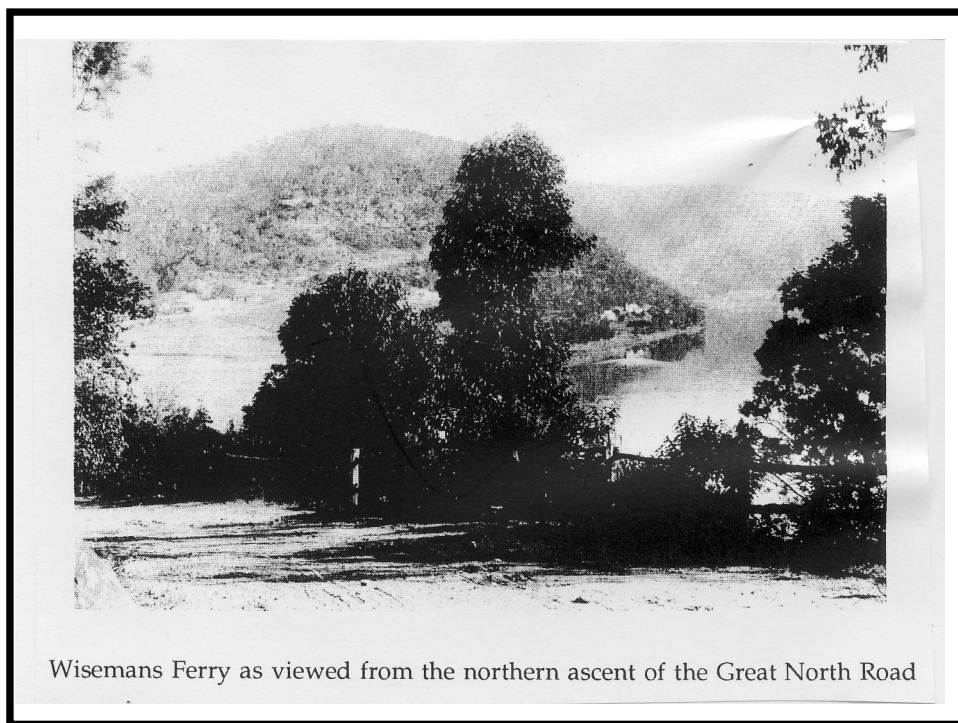
Wisemans Ferry as viewed from the northern ascent of the Great North Road

St Alban's ④

St Alban's is an historic village situated on the Macdonald River which flows into the Hawkesbury River near Wiseman's Ferry. The town was established about *The Settler's Arms*. This licensed inn was built in 1836. However the town of St Alban's is at the southern extremity of the Macdonald Valley. This valley was an extension of the fertile river flats along the Hawkesbury and early settlers found their way into the valley between 1810 and 1820. The building of the Great Northern Road from 1826 brought large numbers of
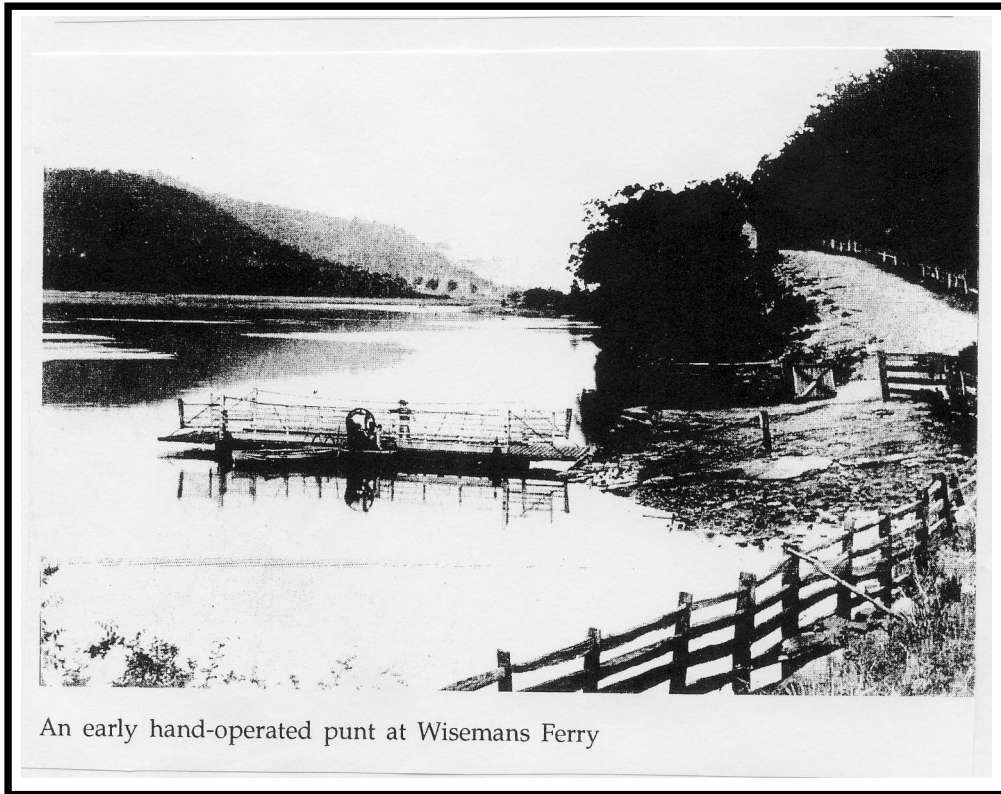
An early hand-operated punt at Wisemans Ferry

convicts into the region. (Walking trails can be followed on the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Great North Road built from Wiseman's Ferry by convict labour between 1825 – 1836).

The Settler's Arms, St Alban's

Berowra Waters

When Surveyor Govett was examining options for a more direct route from Sydney to the Hunter River district (1829) than the Wiseman's Ferry crossing he considered the Berowra Waters as a crossing. Today it has a busy ferry crossing and has developed as a popular marina for the exploration of the Cowan Creek Inlet and other waters of Broken Bay.

Berowra Waters

Aboriginal rock engraving, Berowra Creek

Part 1

The Finest Piece of Water that I Ever Saw ⑧

On his first expedition by boat to Broken Bay Governor Phillip sheltered in a bay of the south arm entrance. He wrote to Lord Sydney:

> *Immediately around the head land (Barrenjoey) that forms the Southern entrance into the Bay, there is a third branch, which I think the finest piece of Water I ever saw, and which I honoured with the name of Pitt Water, it is as well as the Southwest branch, of sufficient extent to contain all the navy of Great Britain, but has only eighteen feet at low water, on a narrow bar, which runs across the entrance. Within the bar there are from seven to fifteen fathom water. The land here is not so high as in the Southwest branch, and there are some good situations where the land might be cultivated. We found small springs of Water in most of the Coves, and saw three cascades falling from a height, which the rains then rendered inaccessible.*

Coaster's Retreat, Pittwater

The area known as Coaster's Retreat encompasses an area on the western bank of the Pittwater Bay between Little Mackerel Beach and Soldiers Point. Within these extremities lie Currawong Beach and The Basin. The Basin is actually a lagoon.

Surveyor Govett's Visit of 1829

Govett's observations on his 1829 visit to the Pittwater area noted three occupations:

* **Shingle-cutting** from casuarina trees, ironbark trees and colonial oaks. (12 pounds for 10,000 shingles).
* **Fishing** – especially dried fish. Some poultry and cattle grazing supplemented the fish diet. Some agriculture was tried as well.
* **Shell gathering** was an important source of income for the vagrant casual down-and-out drifter who found his way to this remote setting. When shells were burnt and turned into lime they provided mortar for Sydney's buildings. This seaboard area

abounded in aboriginal middens along its foreshores and these were plundered. Some of these middens were 30 feet high.

Pittwater Local Area
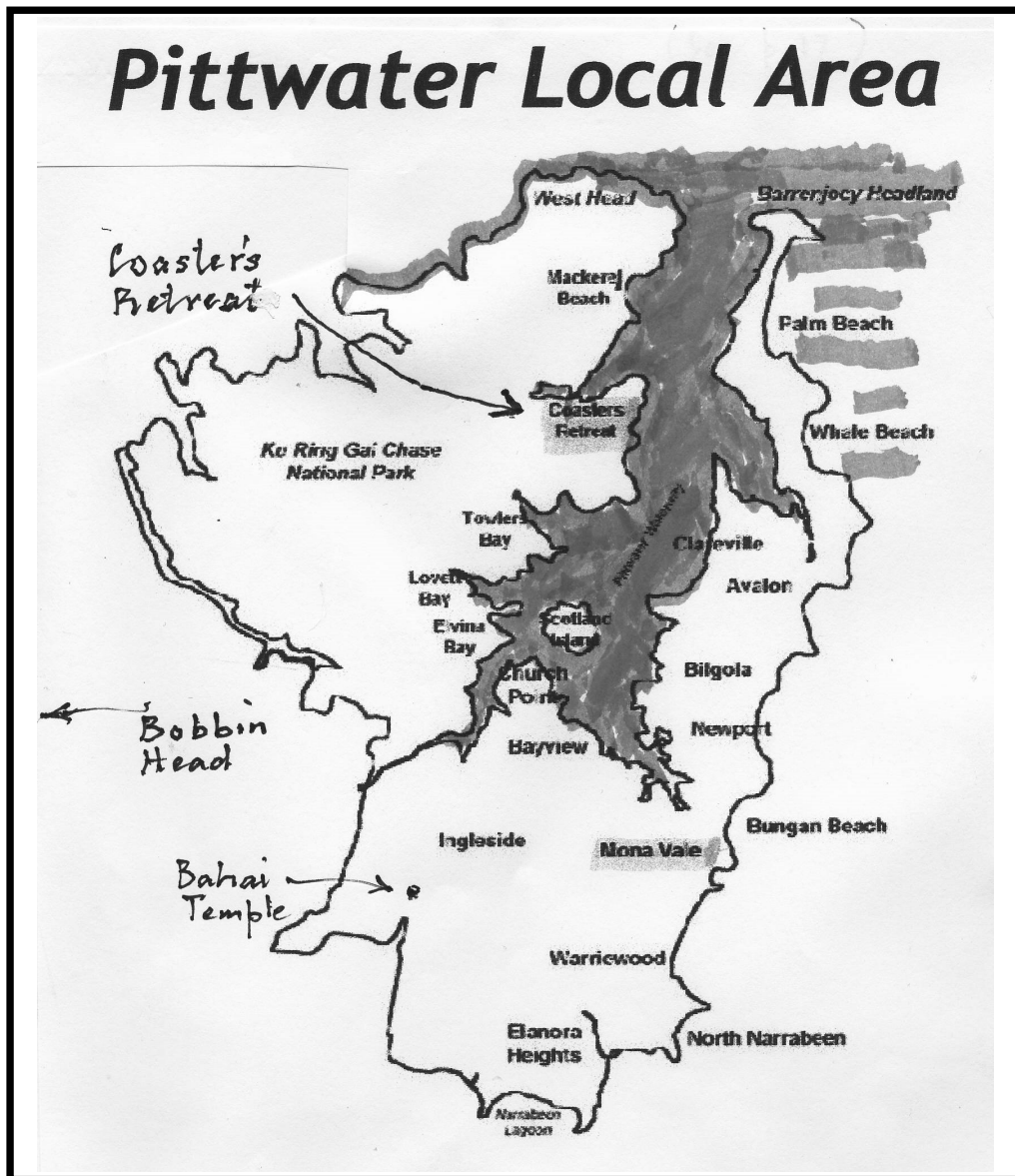
Coaster's Retreat as an Assembly Area

The Coaster's Retreat area provided both a shelter and a place of assembly for Hawkesbury River farmers and Brisbane Waters traders. It was common practice for small traders to voyage to Sydney in convoy. The first recorded convoy left the shelter of Coaster's Retreat on 3 March 1803. It was made up of four vessels, the *James*, the *Edwin*, the *Union* and the *Argument*.

Terracing to Defeat Flooding

The floods of 1806 and 1809 are thought to have motivated the construction of an elaborate system of terraces cut into hillside on the northern slope of the hill west of the Basin Flat. An engineered drainage system ensured the terraced 'homes' were not flooded.

Surveyor Larmer's Visit 30 April 1832

> *By Sunday, 30 April Larmer was following these instructions, completing a map in his field book showing Head of Middle Harbour, swamp, gunyah, and Govett's Dividing Range with "Foot Path" along the ridge. The following pages show surveys of Cowan Creek, then are mentioned Mt Elliott, Hungry Beach, Long Island, America Bay, the Head of Cowan Creek, Tumbledown Dick, Scotland Island with one hut marked. The Basin with three huts marked and the name **Kennedy Murray**, Little Mackerel Beach, Great Mackerel Beach with one hut marked, Fling and Steel Beach, and Jerusalem Bay.*

Extract from p. 67 of *Manly, Waringah and Pittwater*

by S. and G. Champion

Early Squatters (Reference: *Martin Burke* by J. Macken)

During May and June 1832 James Larmer surveyed Pittwater and drew a map of The Basin. This map showed Kennedy Murrays' huts

Most of the early squatters were escapees and others connected with the careening and repairing of the Coasters which were almost always in the Basin or the bay awaiting favourable weather to make the dangerous trip to Sydney along the coast. The custom was to form a convoy of up to six vessels and then travel down the coast together. This system lasted for many years. On June 7th 1841 no less than eleven coasters left the Sound of Broken Bay for Sydney. They carried timber, maize, corn and lime. One vessel, the 'Fly', carried a full cargo of potatoes out of Pittwater.
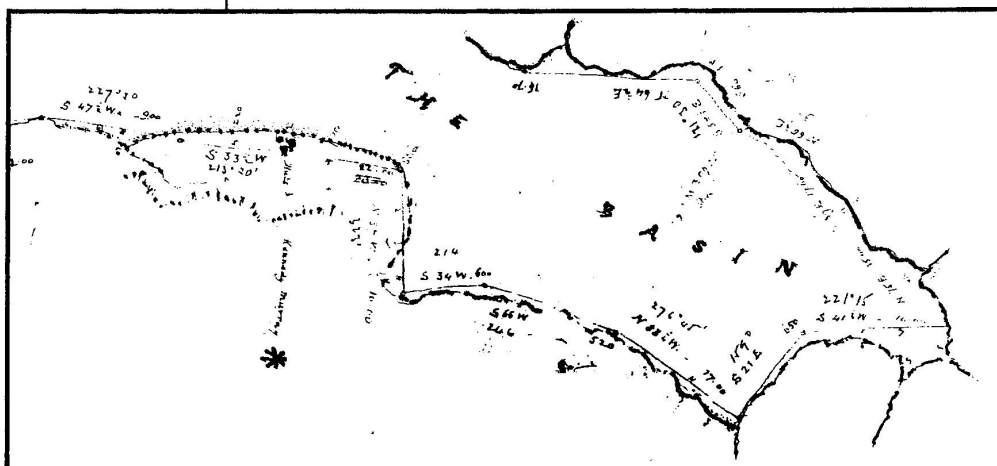
Around this system there grew up a small community, quite isolated from 'civilisation' in Sydney and Parramatta and which developed its own code of conduct and mutual dependence.A good example of the type of settler that made the Basin their home in the 1820's and 1830's was a man named Kennedy Murray who was an exception to the rule that most of the early settlers built their houses on the terraced slopes of the hill. Kennedy Murray lived in a small complex of three huts almost on the beach on the Basin flat. The simple huts may have been used by others before Kennedy Murray moved into them but they were most certainly used by others after he left. In fact they remained substantially the same when they were acquired by Mary Ann Morris (Sally) in 1870 and she lived in them for another 50 years.(7)

Kennedy Murray (Reference: *Martin Burke* by J. Macken)

Kennedy Murray came to Australia on the 4th Fleet (The 'Pitt") in 1792. He married and spent some years on Norfolk Island until his wife, Ann, left and took the three children to Tasmania. He came to Sydney and married again (another Ann) and had four children by her. He had been granted 40 acres of land on the Hawkesbury. His second wife went mad and was sent to the asylum. As there was a query as to his own sanity the government took his last three children (aged from 7 years down to 4) and admitted them to an orphanage in 1822. He was next to squat at the Basin with Ann Haynes; a girl who had lived with James McCarr in the early 1820's at Bayview.

Extract from Manly, Waringah and Pittwater 1850-1880 by Shelagh and George Champion

Surveyors and Settlers (1810-1830)

Kennedy Murray was tried on 14 September 1786 and received a sentence of transportation for fourteen years. He arrived in the Colony by the *Pitt* in February 1792.

By 1796 he was on Norfolk Island, where he married Ann White. Their son Kennedy was born on 4 August 1799, and their daughter Elizabeth on 20 March 1802. Ann seems to have left Kennedy Murray for Richard Sydes, by whom she had four more children: Mary White, born 30 October 1804, John born about 1806, Ann born some time before October 1810, and Tomas born 9 January 1811. The whole Sydes family, including the Murray children, left Norfolk Island for Port Dalrymple, Van Diemen's Land, in January 1813.

Meanwhile Kennedy Murray, whose sentence had expired in 1800, and whose marriage to Ann White was over, left Norfolk Island as a free man by the

Harrington in February 1805, arriving in Sydney on 4 March. At some time after 1806 he married Ann Parker (*Glatton*, 1803), and by 1814 they were living at Windsor or Richmond, and had two children, one of whom was a son, John, born 1811 or 1812. Kennedy was a land-holder, and the family was "off stores", or self-sufficient.

By 1820 three more children had been born. His memorial to Governor Macquarie stated that he had been free for twenty years and had a wife and five children to support. He requested a portion of land and 40 acres was allowed. The family then struck trouble. At the time of the 1822 census, Ann Parker was an inmate of the Lunatic Asylum, while Kennedy was employed by Thomas Acres, a land-holder at Liverpool. Ann was committed to an asylum before July 1823.

At their meeting on 9 July 1823 the Board administering the Male Orphan School resolved, "that the four children of Murray aged from 3 to 10 years whose mother died insane at Castle Hill, and whose father is stated to be now insane, be admitted to the Male Orphan School on 22 October 1823. At that date Kennedy Murray, labourer, resided at Richmond.

The New South Wales Musters for the years 1823, 1824 and 1825 listed John Murray, aged 13, living with William Bell at Richmond. Murray Kennedy was listed twice, once as "land-holder, Illawarra", and once as "Windsor Gaol from Wilberforce". William (9), Henry (8) and James (6) were all at the Orphan School, Liverpool (Bonnyrigg).

Kennedy and John Murray were both living at Pittwater in November 1828, where they had three acres of land cleared and cultivated. Ann Haynes, who had formerly lived with James McCarr, was their housekeeper. Kennedy Murray is shown on a map in surveyor Larmer's field book as living at the Basin in 1832. Kennedy's son William may have been the William Murray who lived in Manly and district for many years, working as a painter and dying in 1898, "parents unknown".

Notes concerning William Murray (son of Kennedy Murray)

William Murray did not live in Manly. He was born in 1815 and died in Mudgee on 1 March 1877 aged 62 years. He was one of my great, great, grandfathers. His mother, Ann Parker,

did not die in 1823 but spent 43 years in asylums/ hospitals and died on 4 November 1862 and was buried in an unmarked grave in All Saints Cemetery, Parramatta.

COASTER'S RETREAT
PITTWATER
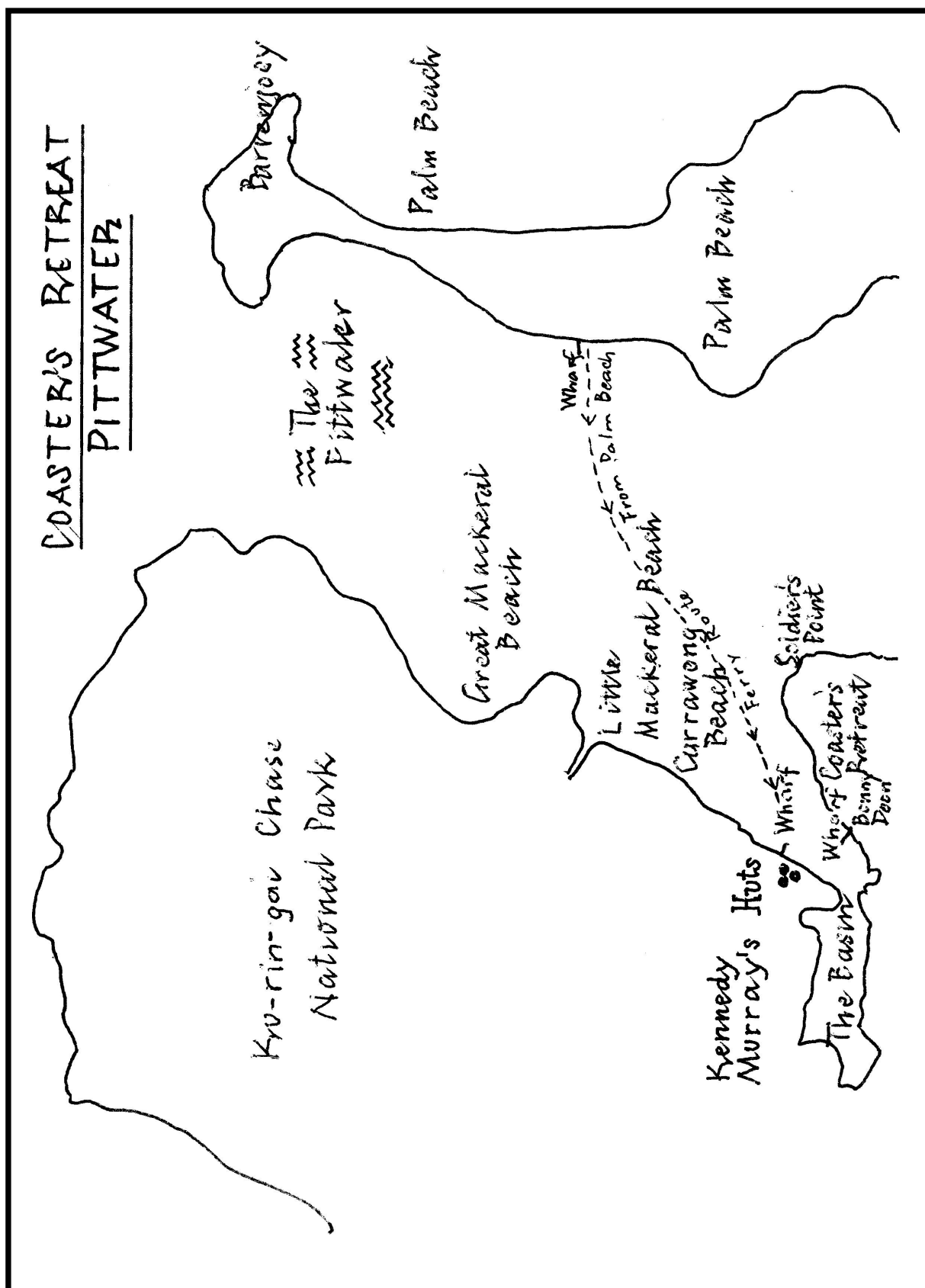
Extract from James J. Macken's *Martin Burke*, Chapter 13, p. 75-77.

An extraordinary feature of life in Pittwater in the 1830's was the fact that almost all of the settlers were connected in one way or another before their arrival in Pittwater. Some were linked by marriage (the Farrells, the Foleys and the Burkes) while others were linked by trade in the city (the Hendersons, the McIntoshes, the Burkes).

The primitive occupations of the early settlers reinforced this community of interest. Everyone had an interest in the success of the salt-making on Scotland Island, the shell gathering, the cattle breeding, the timber getting, shingle cutting or the fishing.
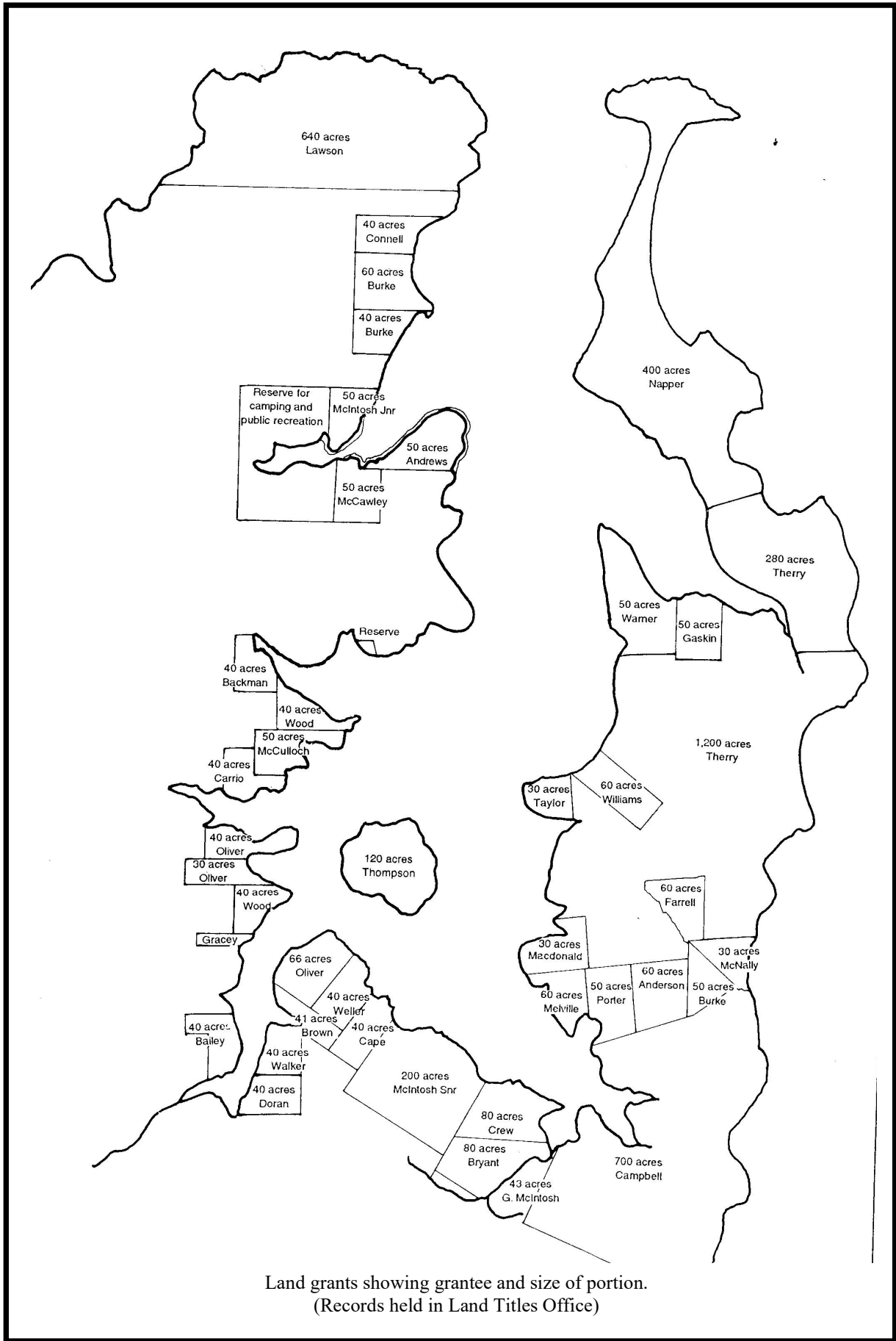
The most common bond between the settlers was the industry of rum smuggling. This was partly for the product itself and partly for the huge sums of money to be made out of the trade. Pittwater was known for its rum smuggling since the "Jenny" was found to be unloading 5000 gallons of rum and brandy illegally in February 1808. Thereafter, regular supplies of spirits reached Sydney via Broken Bay. Although Martin Burke was trained as a distiller and had extensive hotel experience such as would enable him to readily dispose of any illegal spirits he was never caught or charged with any offence in this connection. Much suspicion may have been aroused as all his land holdings featured hidden water access but there is no proof of his complicity in the trade.

Almost all his associates were, however, more or less directly involved. The largest rum smuggling scandal to affect Pittwater came to light shortly before Martin Burke died. On 14th May 1842 the "Fair Barbadian" left Sydney ostensibly for Lombok in Indonesia. Instead of going to Lombok the vessel put in to Broken Bay and the spirits were unloaded for later transmission to Sydney. This time they were found and after a series of dramatic court cases and chases by the Water Police in their vessel the "Ariel" a number of Martin Burke's friends were charged. They included Dan Farrell and Robert Henderson. They were acquitted on technicalities. The establishment of a new Customs House in Sydney in 1827, together with a reorganised Customs and Excise Service, had been expected to reduce the smuggling of spirits. The Sydney Gazette of the 25th June 1827 expressed the fond hope that the 'Hawkesbury boats... will no longer be able to run to the northern country estates with rum brandy and gin.' The changes had no effect whatever on the incidence of smuggling into Broken Bay. Nor did the establishment of a Customs House at Barrenjoey in the 1840's.

From time to time the violence of nature supplemented the violence of men in disturbing the small community at the Mackeral beaches.

Shipwrecks were common in Broken Bay as gales met the usual turbulence at the mouth of the Hawkesbury river. Among the vessels well known to Martin Burke which sank during the time he spent at the Mackeral beaches were the "Redpole" (1834), and the "Adventurer" (1837). The "Denmark Hill", a barque of 253 tons, was totally wrecked when it was beached in Pittwater on the 25th April 1839. It was the largest of the many wrecks lost while Martin Burke was farming the western foreshores.

It was against this background of a community made up of ex-convicts, escapees, rum smugglers, illicit distillers and drop-outs from the severity of life in Sydney and Parramatta that the closing years of Martin Burke's life have to be seen.

640 acres
Lawson

40 acres
Connell

60 acres
Burke

40 acres
Burke

Reserve for
camping and
public recreation

50 acres
McIntosh Jnr

50 acres
Andrews

50 acres
McCawley

400 acres
Napper

280 acres
Therry

Reserve

40 acres
Backman

40 acres
Wood

50 acres
McCulloch

40 acres
Carrio

50 acres
Warner

50 acres
Gaskin

1,200 acres
Therry

30 acres
Taylor

60 acres
Williams

40 acres
Oliver

30 acres
Oliver

40 acres
Wood

120 acres
Thompson

60 acres
Farrell

Gracey

66 acres
Oliver

40 acres
Weller

41 acres
Brown

40 acres
Cape

40 acres
Bailey

40 acres
Walker

40 acres
Doran

200 acres
McIntosh Snr

30 acres
Macdonald

60 acres
Melville

50 acres
Porter

60 acres
Anderson

50 acres
Burke

30 acres
McNally

80 acres
Crew

80 acres
Bryant

43 acres
G. McIntosh

700 acres
Campbell

Land grants showing grantee and size of portion.
(Records held in Land Titles Office)

Part 2
A Visit to the Sydney Bahai Temple, Mona Vale

The Bábí Faith

The Bábí Faith was founded by the Bab (1819-1850) in Persia in 1844. The name 'Bab' means the 'Gate'. The Bab announced that he was not only founding an independent religion but he was also heralding the arrival of a far greater messenger of God than himself. In 1850 the Bab was executed by a firing squad of 750 soldiers.

Bahá'u'lláh

In 1863 Bahá'u'lláh declared that he was the one prophesised by the Bab. Bahá'u'lláh was exiled to various places within the Ottoman Empire. Finally in 1968 he was sent as a prisoner to the fortress city of Akka in Palestine where he passed away in 1892. His successor was his eldest son, `Abdu'l-Bahá (1844-1921) who, in turn, appointed his eldest grandson, Shogi Effendi (1896-1957), as his successor and authorised-interpreter of the Bahai teachings. Shogi Effendi is known as the 'Guardian of the Cause'.

Universal House of Justice

The affairs of the Bahai Faith are today administered by the Universal House of Justice. This governing body is elected once every five years in Haifa, Israel, at an International convention attended by members of all National Spiritual Assemblies. At the National and Local levels the governing bodies are known as Assemblies. At each level these Assemblies are elected annually by secret ballot with no nominations or electioneering. Each governing body has nine members.

A Universal Religion and a System of World Government

To an outsider the Bahai Faith is both a worshipping religion and a system of world government. As a religion it has no clergy and accepts the equality of women and men. Its devotional services draws upon Buddhist, Christian, Islamic, Jewish, Hindu, Persian and Bahai scriptures. There is no ritualism or set form of service.

As a system of World Government it attempts to reach beyond egotism in its own governing. It also encourages members to participate actively in social and economic projects that

promote education, peace, prosperity, and the establishment of a world government, based on truth and justice.

Bahá'í House of Worship

Sydney

The Sydney Bahá'í House of Worship, dedicated in 1961, is a unique architectural development: nine-sided with nine entrances, it symbolises the gathering together of all mankind, irrespective of race, religion, nation or class. The grounds are a wild flower sanctuary. The seats in the central part of the auditorium face the Holy Land. Above the head of the worshippers in the apex of the dome, in Arabic calligraphy, is an invocation of God depicting the Greatest Name which may be translated as

"O Thou Glory of the All-Glorious".